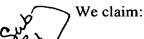
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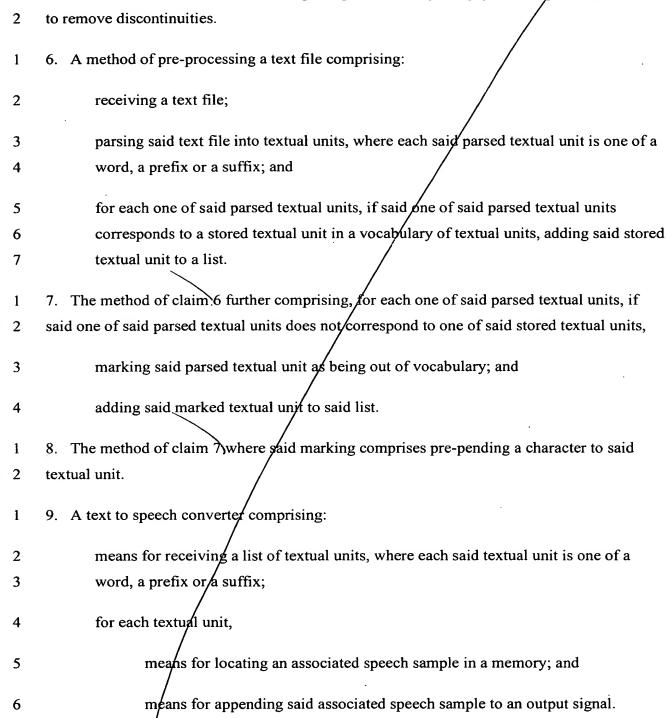


1.	Α	method	of	converting	text to	speech	comprising:
	• •		-			P	

- receiving a list of textual units, where each said textual unit is one of a word, a prefix or a suffix;
- 4 for each textual unit,
- locating an associated speech sample in a memory; and
- 6 appending said associated speech sample to an output signal.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein one said textual unit in said list is indicated as not having an associated speech sample in memory and said/method further comprises:
 - passing said indicated textual unit to a secondary text to speech engine;
- receiving a speech sample converted from said indicated textual unit from said secondary text to speech engine; and
 - appending said converted speech sample to said output signal.
 - 3. The method of claim 2 wherein each said speech sample in said memory comprises a processed recording of a voice talent and said secondary text to speech engine comprises a phonetic text to speech engine based on said voice talent.
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein a consecutive plurality of said textual units in said list represent a whole word, said method further comprising:
- for each textual unit in said consecutive plurality of said textual units, locating an associated speech sample in said memory;
- 5 creating a speech unit by splicing together said plurality of associated speech samples; 6 and
- 7 / appending said speech unit to said output signal.

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5. The method of claim 4 further comprising, after said splicing, processing said speech unit

10. A text to speech converter comprising a processor operable to:

2	receive a list of textual units, where each said textual unit is one of a word, a prefix or					
3	a suffix;					
4	for each textual unit,					
5	locate an associated speech sample in a memory; and					
6	append said associated speech sample to an output signal.					
1	11. A computer readable medium for providing program control to a processor, said					
2	processor included in a text to speech converter, said computer readable medium adapting					
3	said processor to be operable to:					
4	receive a list of textual units, where each said textual unit is one of a word, a prefix or					
5	a suffix;					
6	for each textual unit,					
7	locate an associated speech sample in a memory; and					
8	append said associated speech sample to an output signal.					
1	12. A text to speech conversion system comprising:					
2	a text file pre-processor operable to:					
3	receive a text file;					
4	parse said text file into textual units, where each said parsed textual unit is one					
5	of a word, a prefix or a suffix; and					
6	for each one of said parsed textual units, if said one of said parsed textual units					
7	corresponds to a stored textual unit in a vocabulary of textual units, add said					
8	stored textual unit to a list;					
9	and a textual unit processor operable to:					
10	receive said list of textual units, where each said textual unit is one of a word,					
11	a prefix or a suffix;					



for each textual unit, of said list:

locate an associated speech sample in a memory; and 13

append said associated speech sample to an output signal.

13. A computer data signal expedied in a carrier wave comprising a textual unit and a speech

sample associated with said textual unit, where said textual unit is one of a word, a prefix or a

soffix.

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14. A data structure including a field for a textual unit and a field for a speech sample

associated with said textual unit, where said textual unit is one of a word, a prefix or a suffix. 2

